

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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**March 23, 2004**

**FROM:** **EDOUARD P. LAYAYE**, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer  
Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures

**SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA GRAZING FUND PROJECT**

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve a range improvement fencing project for cattle, located near Johnson Valley in the high desert, and authorize payment to the Bureau of Land Management, in an amount not to exceed \$14,146, from the California Grazing Fund.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The California Grazing budget funds a variety of range improvement projects such as cattle guards, pipelines, tanks and water dispensing facilities recommended by the County's Range Improvement Advisory Committee (RIAC) that and are ultimately approved by the Board of Supervisors. The source of revenue for this budget is federal grazing fees allocated to the County for range improvements on federal lands that are used for cattle grazing.

At their November 2003 meeting, RIAC agreed to recommend a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) project consisting of a four-mile long barbwire fence with one cattle guard and a gate on the Rattlesnake Canyon allotment located on the north slopes of the San Bernardino Mountains near Johnson Valley. This fence will help keep cattle from straying from the designated grazing areas that are specified in County Code section 32.071.

The project cost will not exceed \$14,146. Board approval of any grazing project and related expenditures recommended by RIAC is required pursuant to the Board-approved by-laws of RIAC. This project is classified as a BLM cooperative agreement project under the operating policies and procedures of RIAC. As such, the BLM is responsible for securing all materials and labor for the project and is to be reimbursed from the County's California Grazing budget.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS:** RIAC recommended proceeding with this project on November 20, 2003. This item has been reviewed by the Office of the County Counsel (Scott Runyan, Deputy County Counsel, 387-9022) on March 3, 2004, and by the County Administrative Office (Wayne F. Thies, Administrative Analyst, 387-5409) on March 11, 2004.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:** The total cost of the range improvement project is not to exceed \$14,146 and sufficient funds are available in the California Grazing budget (SCD-ARE). The cost per linear foot for this four-mile long fence is \$0.67, of which \$0.30 is for labor based on material and labor cost bids received by BLM.

**COST REDUCTION PLAN:** The County Administrative Office has reviewed this item and concurs with the Department's recommendation on the basis that approval is consistent with the purposes of this special revenue fund and the project will help contain cattle in the designated grazing areas specified in the County Code. There is no impact on the General Fund.

**SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S):** First

**PRESENTER:** Edouard P. Layaye, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, 387-2115

**Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors**

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